A large tiger-cat has also been seen on more than one occasion, which may possibly turn out to be a new species of the genus *Felis*, none of which have hitherto been discovered in Australia.

The scrubs teem with insect life; large green and golden spotted Butterflies (*Ornithoptera cassandra*), with the grand blue *Papilio ulysses*, are among the commonest, On one occasion I obtained over 200 specimens of these beautiful insects before 9 a.m. Two, if not three, species of aligators and crocodiles inhabit the rivers, which makes it particularly interesting to the traveller in crossing; one specimen, however, *Crocodilus Johnstoni*, named after its discoverer Inspector Robert Johnstone, who forwarded the first and still unique specimen to the Australian Museum, is comparatively harmless, and only found in the head waters of the rivers and creeks and mountain streams; it never inhabits the lagoons, nor has it been observed in the main streams or near the coast.

Mr. Macleay exhibited a series of specimens of Entozoa and Epizoa taken from a Sunfish captured by Mr. Brazier at Port Stephens on the 28th of November, 1874.

Mr. Macleay read the following explanatory notes:—

The small bottle marked No. 1 contains specimens of *Bothriocephalus microcephalus* (Rudolphi). This worm was found in amazing quantity throughout the intestines. I have now in my museum a one-gallon jar of spirits almost full of a nearly solid interwoven mass of these cestodes; indeed, so tangled and knotted are they, that it took Mr. Masters and myself much time and trouble to separate a few specimens for exhibition. A few small ones we got out perfect, but in no instance were we able to get the larger strobilæ in a perfect state. We succeeded, however, in unravelling one nearly perfect which measured over five feet in length, and as there are about sixty proglottides to the inch, the whole strobila must have consisted of nearly 4,000 individuals or segments. The average width of a proglottis is about a quarter of an inch.

No. 2 bottle contains specimens of *Tetrarhynchus reptans* (Rudolphi). This is also a cestode worm, but differs from the tape worms generally in its habit of making a tube or sheath, in

which it is completely enveloped while it tunnels its way through the muscles and viscera of its host. A very interesting and instructive history of this worm is given by Dr. Cobbold in the September number of the Intellectual Observer for the year 1862. The specimens now exhibited were adhering in tangled masses to the integuments of the liver, while the substance of the liver itself had been almost entirely destroyed by being tunnelled through and through in all directions by hundred of these Helminths.

No. 3 is the *Distoma Contortum* (Rudolphi). This trematode was found in considerable number in the substance of the gills.

No. 4 is probably a *Cysticercus*, and is no doubt the scolex form of the taenia of some species of shark. One specimen only was found adhering to the long intestine.

No. 5 is an epizoon, found abundantly on the skin of the fish, and is most probably identical with the *Lernea* mentioned by Captain Grey in his "Travels in Australia," as having been taken in quantity off the head of a Sunfish caught by him in Western Australia; it causes irritating sores about the nose of the fish.

No. 6 is also a parasitic Crustacean, but the genus I have not been able to make out. It was found in limited numbers upon the gills of the fish.

These are all the parasites that Mr. Brazier was able to detect, but they are by no means all the ills that the unfortunate *Orthagoriscus Mola* is heir to, for there are five other Entozoa mentioned by Rudolphi, as peculiar to this animal. I may add that no instance is known of the capture of a large Sunfish in which the viscera and muscles were not completely riddled by various species of Helminths, and from this circumstance no doubt the belief has arisen that it is only when in a dying state that the adult animal leaves its natural home in the depths of the sea, and approaches the shallow waters, where it at once becomes the prey of man.

A valuable microscope was presented to the Society by the President.